

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 072938
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
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DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:ARDORNHEIM:CCH
APPROVED BY EA/IMS:EDWARD C. INGRAHAM
-----022123Z 037346 /73

R 021130Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, EINV, ID

SUBJECT: GOI INQUIRY RE ALCOA INTENTIONS

REF: JAKARTA 3451

1. MR. PARRY, ALCOA'S VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS -
PRIMARY PRODUCTS, STATES THAT ALCOA PLANS TO SEND
REPRESENTATIVES TO JAKARTA WITHIN NEXT TWO MONTHS TO
MEET WITH MINISTER SADLI TO DISCUSS ALCOA'S PLANS.

2. PARRY OBSERVED THAT THERE ARE TWO MAIN PROBLEMS
WHICH ANY GROUP PLANNING TO DEVELOP WEST KALIMANTAN
BAUXITE MUST FACE: PROSPECT OF BAUXITE GLUT FOR NEXT
SEVERAL YEARS, AND HIGHER THAN USUAL COST OF PREPARING
WEST KALIMANTAN ORE FOR FURTHER PROCESSING. RE LATTER,
ORGANIC SUBSTANCES APPARENTLY HAVE TO BE WASHED OFF
FIRST.

3. ALCOA PRESENTLY PLANS MAKING ONE MORE ATTEMPT THIS
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PAGE 02 STATE 072938

YEAR AT PUTTING TOGETHER A CONSORTIUM, BUT CHANCES OF
SUCCESS ARE SEEN AS "ALMOST ZERO". PARRY DOUBTS THAT
ANYBODY WOULD BE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN WEST KALIMANTAN
PROJECT UNTIL MID-1980S.

4. ALCOA'S COMMENTS TO SADLI WILL BE ALONG ABOVE LINES.
THERE WILL BE NO ATTEMPTS TO MISLEAD SADLI. PARRY

ACCEPTS POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER, THAT GOI MAY STILL DOUBT
THAT IT IS BEING TOLD "THE TRUTH" AND MAY REFUSE ANY
MORE EXTENSIONS TO LIFE OF CONTRACT OF WORK. SINCE
IT COSTS ALCOA 50,000 DOLS ANNUALLY TO KEEP CONTRACT
ALIVE, ALCOA MAY EVEN DECIDE NOT TO ASK FOR FURTHER
CONTRACT EXTENSIONS.
CHRISTOPHER

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